

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 AF-08

ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IOE-00 SP-02 L-03

H-02 OIC-02 OMB-01 ABF-01 TRSE-00 SY-05 /088 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5415

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, UNESCO

SUBJECT: UNESCO HEADQUARTERS COMMITTEE

REFS: (A) STATE 229617, (B) STATE 236773

I. HEADQUARTERS PREMISES - LONG-TERM SOLUTION

1. THE RECONVENED 72ND SESSION OF THE HQ COMMITTEE
WAS PRESENTED TODAY WITH THE FOLLOWING TEXT OF DR:
BEGIN QUOTE

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE,

(1) RECALLING THE PROVISIONS OF 18 C/RES. 33.1,

(2) HAVING CONSIDERED THE REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-
GENERAL (DOCUMENT 19 C/71) AND THE REPORT OF
THE HEADQUARTERS COMMITTEE (DOCUMENT L9 C/68),
SECTION II),

(3) APPROVES OF THE CONCLUSIONS REACHED IN THESE
TWO DOCUMENTS;

(4) AUTHORIZES THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL TO CON-
TINUE WITH THE FRENCH AUTHORITIES THE CON-
SULTATIONS PROVIDED FOR IN THE ABOVE-

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MENTIONED RESOLUTION;

(5) INVITES THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE
THE SEARCH FOR LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS WHICH
FULFILL THE CONDITIONS AND CRITERIA SET OUT
IN THE ABOVE-MENTIONED REPORTS AND TO INFORM
THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THESE POSSIBILITIES.

END QUOTE.

2. DEPUTY US PERMREP USED THIS OCCASION TO REITERATE
USG OPPOSITION RE "LONG-TERM SOLUTION" ISSUE ALONG LINES
OF REF (A), I.E. (A) THAT UNESCO SHOULD ABANDON ANY
SERIOUS THOUGHT OF BUILDING A TOTALLY NEW HQ COMPLEX OR
TO MOVE TO SOME OTHER UNSPECIFIED SITE; (B) THAT US IS
OPPOSED TO ANY CONSIDERATION OF CONSTRUCTING OF ANOTHER
BUILDING BEYOND THE PRESENT BUILDING VI, AND (C) THAT
FOCUS FOR SOLVING UNESCO SPACE PROBLEMS SHOULD BE ON
MORE EFFECTIVE UTILIZATION OF EXISTING SPACE.

3. HE SAID THAT THE RESOLUTION, IN OUR VIEW, SHOULD
NOT BE INTERPRETED AS PROVIDING ANY OPENING FOR ANY
FUTURE CONSTRUCTIONS OF NEW BUILDINGS OR GIVING GREEN
OR EVEN "YELLOW" LIGHT TO PROCEED WITH ANY NEW PROJECT
IN THE FUTURE.

4. NO OTHER HQ COMMITTEE MEMBER MADE ANY COMMENT ON
ABOVE DR WHICH CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCED "ADOPTED WITH OHE
OPPOSITION AS PER STATEMENT JUST MADE BY THE U.S.
DELEGATE."

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II. HEADQUARTERS PREMISES - EXTENDED MEDIUM-TERM SOLUTION.

1. REVISED TEXT OF DR ON THIS ITEM DID NOT CONTAIN PARA. 6 OF ITS ORIGINAL VERSION, I.E. SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO QUESTION OF "SERVICE APARTMENT" FOR THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL WHICH ORIGINALLY READ AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE

6. AUTHORIZES THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL TO ARRANGE FOR THE INSTALLATION OF AN OFFICIAL APARTMENT ON THE UPPER FLOORS OF THE BUILDING, WITH A USABLE AREA OF 350 SQUARE METERS AND AT A MAXIMUM COST OF 830,000 FRANCS, ON THE BASIS OF THE PLANS AND ESTIMATE SUBMITTED TO THE HEADQUARTERS COMMITTEE AT ITS 72ND SESSION. END QUOTE.

2. INSTEAD, IN ITS OPERATIVE PARAS, THE REVISED DR QUOTE

(5) NOTES THE STEPS TAKEN BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL TO REDUCE THE DURATION OF THE CONSTRUCTION WORK IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THE WHOLE BUILD-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ING IS COMPLETED AND BROUGHT INTO SERVICE IN OCTOBER 1977;

(6) CONCLUDES THAT, UNLESS THERE IS A FURTHER DETERIORATION IN THE ECONOMIC SITUATION OR UNEXPECTED CLAIMS ARE MADE BY THE CONTRACTORS, THE STEPS TAKEN BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL SHOULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO COMPLETE THE WHOLE OPERATION WITHOUT EXCEEDING THE REVISED APPROPRIATION OF 96,942,000 FRENCH FRANCS APPROVED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE AT ITS EIGHTEENTH SESSION, DESPITE THE FINANCIAL EFFECTS OF THE DELAY IN OBTAINING VACANT POSSESSION OF THE SECOND PARCEL OF LAND;

(7) AUTHORIZES THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL, HOWEVER, SHOULD THE BUDGET PROVIDED NOT PROVE SUFFICIENT TO COVER FURTHER UNFORESEEABLE RISES IN THE COST OF LABOUR AND MATERIALS AND CLAIMS MADE BY THE CONTRACTORS OR

FAILURES ON THEIR BEHALF TO OBSERVE THE TERMS
OF THE CONTRACT, TO SUBMIT FOR THE APPROVAL OF
THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, ON THE BASIS OF A RECOM-
MENDATION OF THE HEADQUARTERS COMMITTEE
ADOPTED BY A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY, REQUESTS FOR
ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO A TOTAL NOT EXCEEDING FIVE
PERCENT OF THE AMOUNT OF THE APPROPRIATION
REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPH 6 OF THIS RESOLUTION;
END QUOTE

3. IN INTRODUCING THIS DR THE CHAIRMAN STATED THAT THE
DIRECTOR-GENERAL IS STILL VERY MUCH HOPING THAT THE
COMMITTEE WILL GO ALONG WITH THE PORPOSAL TO CONSTRUCT
AN OFFICIAL APARTMENT FOR UNESCO DG. HOWEVER, IT WAS
CONSIDERED POSSIBLE TO DO SO WITHIN THE APPROVED
FINANCIAL CEILING (I.E. 96,942,000 FRANCS) BY DEFERRING
CONSTRUCTION OF THE OTHER PLANNED WORK IN BUILDING
VI, SUCH AS "PIACA" (RECEPTION ROOMS) OR SOME OTHER
WORK. WHAT HE (CHAIRMAN) ASKED NOW WAS TO "TAKE A
DECISION ON THE BASIC PRINCIPLE OF CONSTRUCTING SUCH
AN APARTMENT WITH THE CLEAR UNDERSTANDING THAT THIS WILL
BE DONE WITHIN THE FINANCIAL CEILING."
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4. THIS LED TO A CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION DURING WHICH
DEPUTY US PERMREP MADE FOLLOWING STATEMENT SETTING
FORTH US VIEWS AS PER REF (B), LEAVING OUT POINT (D)
OF REFTEL BECAUSE NEW DEVELOPMENT NOTED ABOVE.

QUOTE:

MR. CHAIRMAN, WHEN YOU FIRST INTRODUCED THIS MATTER
BEFORE THE COMMITTEE LAST MONDAY, YOU HAVE ASKED US
TO BE ABSOLUTELY CANDID IN OUR RESPONSES. YOU HAVE
ALSO MADE A SPECIAL STRESS ON THE FACT THAT THE
DIRECTOR-GENERAL WAS ONLY EXPLORING THIS ALTERNA-
TIVE, AND THAT HE WILL BE GUIDED BY THE VIEWS OF
THIS COMMITTEE. WELL, I HAVE NOW RECEIVED MY GOVERN-
MENT'S INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS PARTICULAR MATTER AND,
WITH YOUR KIND PERMISSION, I WOULD LIKE TO PRESENT
OUR POSITION IN THAT SPIRIT OF CANDIDNESS
AND SINCERITY.

MR. CHAIRMAN, IT IS NOT THAT WE ARE INDIFFERENT TO

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THE QUESTION OF SECURITY AND SAFETY OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF UNESCO THAT WE HAVE TO OPPOSE THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN APARTMENT FOR THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL IN BUILDING VI OR ANYWHERE ELSE. ON THE CONTRARY, WE FEEL THAT SUCH A CONSTRUCTION IN THE "UNESCO FORTRESS" MAY LOWER THE GUARD ON THE PART OF OUR DISTINGUISHED DIRECTOR-GENERAL HIMSELF AND ALL THOSE WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS SECURITY AND PROTECTION AND MAY GIVE A FALSE SENSE OF SAFETY,

FURTHERMORE, THIS IS WITHOUT PRECEDENT IN THE ENTIRE UN SYSTEM AND, WE FEEL, WOULD BE A HIGHLY UNDESIRABLE PRECEDENT. AT A TIME WHEN THE ENTIRE UN SYSTEM IS COMING UNDER INCREASINGLY SHARP PUBLIC CRITICISM BECAUSE OF ITS PAY AND EMOLUMENT PACKAGE, WE BELIEVE IT IS IMPRUDENT TO BUILD AN "OFFICIAL APARTMENT" THE COST OF WHICH WOULD, EVEN IF PARTIALLY, BE BORNE BY THE MEMBER STATES. IN SUM, WHILE NOT REALLY SOLVING THE SECURITY PROBLEM, SUCH AN APARTMENT WOULD ONLY USE UP THE OFFICE SPACE, WHICH, WE ARE TOLD, IS ALREADY CRITICALLY SHORT.

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5. FRG MADE BRIEF INTERVENTION TO REGISTER FOR THE RECORD THEIR ABSTENTION ON SUBJECT MATTER. FRANCE ANNOUNCED THAT AFTER CAREFUL STUDY OF PRO AND CONS, GOF DECIDED TO SUPPORT CONSTRUCTION OF DG APARTMENT, "PROVIDED THAT IT COULD BE DONE WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COSTS AND WITHIN THE APPROVED FINANCIAL CEILING FOR BUILDING VI. SIMILARLY, AUSTRALIA, NETHERLANDS AND UK STATED THAT THEY WOULD GO ALONG WITH THE CONSENSUS AND WOULD SUPPORT CONSTRUCTION OF DG APARTMENT.

6. IN RESPONSE TO CHAIRMAN'S DIRECT QUESTION, IRAN, SPAIN, INDONESIA, TOGO AND PANAMA ALSO STATED THEIR SUPPORT. CHAIRMAN THEN CONCLUDED THAT THE MAJORITY HAS CLEARLY EXPRESSED IN FAVOR OF PROJECT. QUESTION OF FINANCING IT WILL BE FURTHER STUDIED BY THE SECRETARIAT, ALONG THE LINES OF TWO ALTERNATIVES MENTIONED ABOVE, AND WILL BE FINALLY DECIDED WHEN THE COMMITTEE RECONVENES THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH AT 9:30 A.M.

7. IF DEPARTMENT HAS ANY FURTHER GUIDANCE ON SUBJECT MATTER, PLEASE CABLE IMMEDIATELY BY COB SEPTEMBER 29TH.
RUSH

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